

#### Explorers:

Another successful year for the explorer units in the district. All units attended the district camp that was held in September and congratulations to Ekta for winning the team challenge event on the day. Over the past year the units have been all over the UK camping and have done hiking, biking and canoeing. There have also been numerous awards handed out to many explorers including Jack Petchey awards, Duke of Edinburgh awards (bronze and silver, with teams working towards their gold), chief scout diamond and platinum, explorer belts, young leaders awards and deputy lieutenants award. I hope you will all join me in congratulating our young people on some truly fantastic achievements.

My thanks goes out to all unit leaders for their continued support and incredible effort in running such adventurous programmes, which the explorers get so much out of. A special shout out to both Paul and Marian our treasurers, they do so much behind the scenes and we'd be truly lost without them!

#### Network:

Greenford and District Network has a new logo and a new name - Nexus. With over 30 active members Nexus has gone from strength to strength since their first official event last October, a fancy dress laser tag evening at PACCAR. A variety of different events have been had since, most recently an evening decorating cowboy hats for the upcoming National Network Festival, which 16 members will be heading to Coventry for in July. There are also plans for future events and camps on the cards, so watch this space! Members have also achieved awards including Duke of Edinburgh, chief scout awards and a Kings scout award (well done Ganga!) with more members looking to join the Kings Scout club soon.

Network is open to anyone in scouting aged 18-24, so if you're interested please contact [mike.kiley@greenfordscouts.org.uk](mailto:mike.kiley@greenfordscouts.org.uk)! Big thanks goes to Alex Taylor Brown for all her help in everything Nexus related and to treasurer Hitesh Shah, couldn't do it without you both!

Scouts:

I would like to start by thanking all the leaders and helpers who have worked so hard and diligently in their troops on a weekly basis. I would also like to thank District Scout Leaders, SAS and other leaders and helpers from various troops and groups who give additional time and energy to provide the activities undertaken at District level.

The underground wide game was enjoyed by all that attended, fire lighting was a blazing success and the evil brew lived up to its name.

The pioneering course showed the scouts could reach new heights with the explorers helping guide the teams to grade A (frames) for them to pass.

As a section we participated in Remembrance Sunday parade with the Royal British Legion and the cadets.

The Presentation Evening showed how great the scouts are doing and allowed us to celebrate in their success.

Tom Miller

Cubs:

First of all, I would like to say a massive thanks to all the District Cub leaders for another successful year of scouting in Greenford and District. You have done a fantastic job each week running a structured and a well-balanced programme for your cubs to enjoy week in week out. Also, many thanks to our other wonderful leaders and helpers from around the district in helping to run competitions and events for the cubs to enjoy.

Cub Activity Day was a great success with the packs taking part in Rifle Shooting, Archery, Canoeing, Climbing, First Aid and making mini pizzas at SAC. Great fun was had by all.

Sports Day was the event that all our cubs either achieved their 'Athletics or Athletics Plus' activity badge. The competition was won by 23rd Wembley and they were also awarded the Bob Beeney trophy for 2024 for winning the 3-legged race.

After the summer holidays we had a great turn out of packs for the Greenford and District Camp at Paccar. Lots of activities were completed throughout the weekend. Lots of cubs and a few leaders went home looking very tired after not much sleep!!

Cub Football was won by 23rd Wembley at SAC. As a section we participated in the Remembrance Sunday parade with the Royal British Legion and cadets. The District Cub flag was carried by 3rd Northolt and 2nd Northolt 'Vikings' supplied the flag escorts.

District Cub Christmas trip was a lovely dry but chilly day to Legoland Windsor with around 120 cubs and leaders attending.

The Albert Thom trophy for 2024 was won jointly by 2nd Northolt and 3rd Perivale. This trophy is awarded to the pack with the most points gained throughout the year for all competitions. During 2024 the competitions were: Handicraft, Cross Country, Sports Day and Football. Well done to both packs!!

Cub Quiz was won by the joint team made up of 1st Greenford and 3rd Northolt. They also won the Bob Beeney trophy for 2025. Cross Country was won by 2nd Northolt 'Viking' Cub pack.

We ended the year with our Presentation Afternoon which showed how great our cubs are and allowed us to celebrate their success. It was great to see so many of them achieving their Silver Chief Scout Award.

Beavers:

District Beavers have had another great year and it has been great seeing the beavers have fun.

We attended the Hendon R A F Museum gaining stage 2 Air activity badge then had a great time at District camp.

Then the weather was against us and our Beaver Hike got called off due to how wet and slippery it was. Then the multi faith day had to be cancelled due to a clash in dates.

We had a great turn out at the Remembrance Day parade and it was wonderful to see.

In December we attended Hertfordshire Zoo but there was a yellow warning in place. Throughout the day the weather was assessed and it was decided we would leave an hour earlier. But the beavers had a great time.

It was amazing to see so many Beavers get awarded their bronze award at the presentation ceremony.

We then had a Beavers woodland camp where the beavers got to experience various activities and camping out. For a lot of the beavers it was their first time camping and most of them survived the night.

The Stephen Newell trophy AKA the water race was again well attended and was won by 4th Greenford Methodist scout group. Well done to them.

None of these amazing opportunities could happen without the help from Beavers Leaders and other volunteers throughout the district. Thank you for giving up more of your time on top of your section nights and enriching the lives of the beavers.

It has been an honour to watch the beavers grow again this year and I'm looking forward to the upcoming year and the surprise it will hold.

Emma Wilson and Jayne Holt ADC Beavers

## Squirrels:

The Squirrels had another fantastic year of Scouting, introducing Scouting to the younger members of our community. We had even more Squirrels achieve many of their activity badges and even some achieve their Chief Scout Acorn award.

We currently still only have two squirrel dreys within the District but are always looking for the opportunity to open more.

We also will look to arrange for more District Squirrel events in the coming year!